QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

The P. W. D. Advisory Board.

52. *Mr. K. M. Kesavan (*Karunagapalli, Kartikapalli and Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertallai*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of meetings held by the P. W. D. Advisory Board ;

(*b*) the places where such meetings were held ; and

(*c*) the work done by those meetings ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar (*Chief Engineer*) : (*a*) Three.

(*b*) In the Office of the Chief Engineer.

(*c*) The rules for the working of the committee etc., were considered and approved. The question of preparing a five-year plan of works in the different taluks was considered and a taluk-war list of works to be taken up next year was prepared.

Mr. K. M. Kesavan : In respect of answer to part (*c*), may I know whether these rules and the provisions of the five-year plan will be made available to the members of this House ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : The five-year plan has not been completely laid out. When the full plan is made available, it will be placed before this House.

Ryots' Roads.

53. *Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla (*Mavelikara and Tiruvalla* cum *Pattanamtitta*): Will the Government be pleased to state how many miles of ryots' roads there are in the State and how many miles of them are in a finished state with the necessary culverts, bridges and other improvements ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar: There are in all 525 miles of ryots' roads of which 334 miles and 7½ furlongs are in a finished state.

Incomplete Roads.

54. *Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Will the Government be pleased to state whether any plan could be devised by which roads that remain incomplete may be made at least cartable within five years ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : The question is under consideration.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir, it is stated in the answer that "the question is under consideration". Will the honourable member say whether these incomplete roads will not become completely useless if we prolong this 'consideration'?

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Mr. M.S. Doraswami Aiyangar : The question of improvement of the balance number of miles of the ryots' roads has been placed duly before the P. W. D. Advisory Committee and the more urgent of them are being taken up and included in the programme for the next year. The others will be included in the programmes for the future years.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir, that is not my question. May I know whether these roads will not become absolutely useless if the department does not take immediate action ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Well, we are doing some maintenance work. Therefore, they will not become absolutely useless.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Yes, but will they not become partly useless ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Yes. Improvements are not done at present, but the ordinary maintenance work, which is necessary to keep them under the present conditions, are being made.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Will the suggestions be placed before us in regard to the entire five-year plan ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : Yes, it will be done.

Tiruvalla-Edathua section of the Alleppey-Mundakayam road.

55. ***Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla** : Will the Government be pleased to state how many years have passed since work began in the Thiruvalla-Edathua Section of the Alleppey-Mundakayam road and why the work is not yet complete though money has been budgeted for it every year ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : It is 12 years since the work was started. The road work has been nearly completed between Tiruvalla and Edathua. Steps have already been taken to push on with the construction of bridges and culverts which had to be delayed owing to change of design.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Sir may I know how many times, since the work was started, have the design been changed in connection with this road ? It is stated that the work was started twelve years ago. May I know how many times have the designs been changed by the department ?

Mr. M. S. Doraswami Aiyangar : With regard to the road between Podiyadi and Neeratupuram, there are two bridges. The designs of both of them had to be changed about once each. But the matter was under investigation and correspondence and therefore ....

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Well, change of design need not take twelve years for the execution of the work.

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